

WOMAN'S HOME PAGE

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HATS FOR MIDSUMMER

LATEST MODES FOR SUMMER USES

FOR variety of shapes and materials, for profusion of flowers and ribbons and feathers, for luxuriance and simplicity combined, I do not remember a summer hat season comparable to this. Advice from Paris indicate that the early fall will see a marked change in style, but this summer we have had a period of unclouded style, if we may use such an expression. If a woman preferred a big hat, she might have one; if she preferred a small one, she was equally in style. To be sure, the big hats, the so-called "peach-baskets," were more numerous on the streets of New York during the early summer, but women who sought distinction in garb very early abandoned these extreme and unbecoming creations.

It is, as you realize, always advisable to abstain from extremes in every detail of dressing, particularly if your purse does not allow of your having a great variety of clothing. Of no feature of your costume is this more advisable than in the matter of hats. If you must content yourself with two hats, endeavor to have them in the prevailing mode, but not so noticeable that your friends will recognize you by your headgear. Refuse to occupy herself with the not the garb spoken of in the cheap shops as "stylish."

Latest Hats

I am showing you in this page a number of hats exhibited by fashionable New York and Paris milliners. They are all straws and range from the simple Panama, adorned with flowing ribbon, through a modified flower hat, up to the most expensive Paris creation—the bottom photograph of the group—a large black straw with masses of ostrich feathers and plumes.

As necessary an article of dressing, however, is the shirt-waist, once the utility garb of the woman who worked in an office, but now the favorite garment for suitable occasions for the rich as well as for the self-supporting. Every woman should have a number of these garments in her wardrobe, and for the woman who likes to occupy herself with occasional sewing, I am giving some useful suggestions for the making of the newest shirt-waists.

The Latest Shirt-Waist

It would seem that the designers must sometimes reach the end of invention, and be unable to devise any further variation of tuck and plait, whereby to diversify the tailored shirt-waist. The more decorative garment—the lingerie waist, so-called—by reason of its settings of lace and embroidery, offers fewer obstacles to originality, but the tailored waist, demanding simplicity and severity of line, can command no such assistance.

There is one feature available, however, in the varied effects afforded by the different methods of closing. The simplest is the plain box-plait, buttoning through the center, with moderately large pearl buttons. The edges are stitched, and many of this season's models show a narrow, plaited frill at each edge, though the new detachable frills are frequently made with buttonholes in the central band, through which they may be attached to the same pearl buttons that close the waist.

A New-Plait Closing

The method of forming the box-plait at the shirt-waist closing differs from the making of an ordinary box-plait. It is necessary to dispose of the raw edge turned under at the front and to make a neat inside finish, combining the two operations in an interesting and method as possible. This is one of the cases where a time-and-labor-saving plan is commendable; there are, unfortunately, some others that are less desirable.

An adequate and neat finish on the inner, concealed side, as well as on the outer, is what constitutes good craftsmanship, no matter to what branch of the Arts it may be applied. There is certainly no more womanly art than that of the needle, and, though unnecessary finesses should be avoided, slipshod methods of saving trouble are always deplorable.

Making the Plait

The box-plait is made on the right side of the front of the waist, lapping from right to left, as is the rule for women's clothing. The edge of the right front is turned under the width desired for the completed box-plait and a row of machine stitching is made one-quarter of an inch back from the fold-edge. An inch and one-half back from this fold-edge the material is creased as if for a tuck; the raw-edge of the turned-under portion will come even with this crease.

The tuck is stitched one-quarter inch from the fold-edge and across the turned-under raw edge included in it, slipped between the two surfaces of the material that, when stitched together, form the tuck. The tuck, when stitched is pressed, backward, toward the armhole, and forms the second edge, that completes the box-plait. The left front has been cut the same as the right, and as no box-plait is made here, it must be finished in such manner that when the slip the raw edge of the turned-under portion into the tuck and stitch one inch from the crease. This will make a finish corresponding with that on the right front, but with the hem one inch wide instead of two.

The buttonholes may be placed either horizontally or vertically at the center of the box-plait. Lap the left front over the hemmed side of the left front and run a pin through the center of each buttonhole and into the hemmed edge underneath to mark the position of the buttons.

The Military Closing. The duchess, or, as it is sometimes called, the military closing, forms an attractive finish for the front of a waist. The effect is of two forward-turning tucks, each one inch wide, with their fold-edges meeting at the center-front. The actual closing, with buttons and buttonholes, is effected under these tucks; a hem two inches wide when finished is made on the edge of the right front, and a hem one inch wide on the left. Three-eighths of an inch allowance should be made for seams and turn-under, consequently for a two-inch-wide hem two and three-eighths inches should be turned under at the front edge, three-eighths forming the turn-under at the edge of the hem where it is stitched.

One inch back of this stitching, or three inches from the front fold-edge of the hem, crease the material and stitch a forward-turning tuck one inch from the creased edge. The work may be simplified if one row of stitching is made to secure both the hem and the tuck. The left side requires a hem only one inch wide, consequently this front portion should be two inches narrower than the corresponding portion for the right side.

If both sides have been cut alike, trim off two inches from the front edge of the left side. Turn under one inch and three-eighths, make the crease for the tuck two inches back from the fold-edge, slip the raw edge of the turned-under portion into the tuck and stitch one inch from the crease. This will make a finish corresponding with that on the right front, but with the hem one inch wide instead of two.

The buttonholes are worked in the wide hem, near its edge, and the buttons are sewed in corresponding positions on the narrow hem. This brings the actual closing under the forward-turning plait on the left front of the waist.

Special Materials

One may sometimes have a piece of material of rather pronounced pattern on which a special arrangement of the plaits is desirable. In remodeling, a waist may often be secured from a number of narrow pieces if they may be joined in such a manner that the seams may be concealed under a tuck or a plait. It requires only a little practice to arrange one's own designs to meet occasions like this. When a waist closes in the back it is usually with a simple hem, made the same width on both the right and left back portions and lapped and fastened with buttons and buttonholes or buttonhole loops.

The over and underlaps of sleeve closings, fashioned after the manner of a man's shirt-sleeves, while very simple when one knows how, are somewhat puzzling to the beginner. They should be applied before the sleeve is stitched together at the seam edges, as the work can be more easily handled when the sleeve may be laid out flat. It will be necessary, however, to stitch the seam before applying the cuff.

Cut the slit in the sleeve according to the pattern, and make the notches in the edges. Cut two overlaps and two underlaps; the overlap has two notches in one of its straight edges, the underlap has

of its straight edges, the underlap has one. Place the overlap on the under or wrong side of the sleeve material, the surface or right side of the material of the overlap facing the under of the sleeve, and the two notches in the edge of the overlap even with the two notches in the slit in the sleeve; stitch a narrow seam.

Place the underlap on the top or right side of the sleeve goods, the right sides of both sleeve goods and underlap facing each other, and the single notch in the edge of the underlap even with the single notch in the edge of the slit. When both these laps are stitched to the edges of the slit in the sleeve, the overlap will be on the underside and the underlap on the upper side of the sleeve.

Flattening the Closing. Have both edges of each seam turned toward the opposite side of the slit. Turn under one-quarter inch on the free side and across the lower edge of the underlap. Bring the side edge over and hem it, either by hand or machine, to the sleeve, concealing the row of stitching that forms the seam.

Turn under one-quarter inch on the edge of the overlap. Make a crease from the point at one end to the straight edge at the other.

THE PRESERVATION OF THE HAIR

Simple Rules for Beautifying Woman's Chief Charm

MANY women suffer from excessive loss of hair. Whenever they comb it, it usually comes out in handfuls, especially after shampooing. A perfect head of hair is woman's chief claim to beauty and great care should be taken to preserve it.

In order to remedy the thinning of the hair, it is first of all necessary to find out the reason. Those who suffer from thinning hair should bear in mind that it is often the result of something in the constitution quite remote from the seat of the trouble. Extreme nervousness, headache, worry, anxiety, besides the heat which accompanies fevers, will affect the hair and cause it not only to come out, but will arrest its growth. Another cause is great heat in the head. You can readily ascertain if this is the case by feeling with the finger tips if the scalp is very hot. If such is the case, use some good hair tonic that has alcohol in it, and wet the scalp with it morning and night.

The most frequent cause of the thinning of the hair is defective circulation of the small blood vessels which carry the blood supply to the roots. The hair is not nourished sufficiently, and its growth is checked. The ultimate result is shown in the bald spots, so frequently seen in men, where the destruction of the hair follicles has gone on to such an extent that the scalp is as smooth as the back of the hand. To remedy such a condition the blood must be brought back again into the blood vessels. This is done by pinching and massaging the scalp, so that it will be quite red, the redness denoting that the blood has come again into the blood vessels.

Washing the Scalp

The use of the tincture of cantharides, which is so often recommended, helps from the reason that it brings the blood

to the surface by causing an irritation, which will even give rise to a blistering, if used too strong. It is usually diluted one-half to one-third of its strength, or even more if the scalp is very sensitive, and applied to the roots of the hair by means of a small brush. Every other day is often enough.

I do not recommend brushing the hair, for the reason that, unless great care is taken, the scalp is not touched, and it is only the hair which receives the stroke. All treatment to prove of benefit must be applied directly to the scalp, where are situated the hair follicles. Moreover, brushing the hair is liable to drag it out. The application of the finger-tips to the scalp, pressing it and rubbing it with a firm, gentle, persistent pressure, is what is best to renew the vitality of the scalp and bring back the blood, which has deserted the capillaries and left them to shrivel.

The greatest cause why women lose their hair is lack of cleanliness. Do not be shocked when I say that this is likely to occur among those who are often described because of their fastidiousness as "very particular." Specialists are coming more and more to believe that loss of hair is occasioned by a microbe. Combs and brushes should be kept scrupulously clean.

Many hesitate to wash brushes, fearing that the process will spoil them. Brushes need washing as often as, if not more frequently than, combs. They should be washed with soap and warm water, not too hot, and rinsed in water to which a little ammonia has been added; and the secret of preserving the stiffness of the bristles lies in drying them very quickly.

Keep Combs Clean

Those who use black combs cannot see how very quickly they become dirty and require washing. I have a friend

who had very poor hair, and it occurred to her that the cause of it might be due to lack of cleanliness of her combs, and in order not to be obliged to wash them too frequently she had a half a dozen or so and used a fresh one every day, her hair improving perceptibly after she had inaugurated this regime.

Never use other people's brushes or combs, not even those of the family, if this can be avoided. Hairdressers are much more careful than formerly, and are supposed to sterilize all their brushes and combs before using them for anyone.

Dress the Hair Carefully

The hair may be injured by the manner in which it is dressed. Any tension or dragging on the roots is very bad for it, which accounts for the way it thins around the temples and at the sides. After having been done up for a long time in one way, the hair gets tired, and the style of dressing it should be changed.

If the head is hot and the hair is falling out in consequence, the hair should not be piled up on the crown, but should be dressed low, although it is more apt to drag when done low in the neck than when placed higher on the head.

Use of Tonics

In regard to hair tonics, the kind should be determined by the condition. If the hair is very oily, tonics made with alcohol are best, and quinine is an excellent stimulant to the hair follicles. If the hair is dry and rough in texture, or fine and fluffy, the hair follicles need applications of grease, and crude yellow vaseline is excellent for this purpose.

It is a mistake to drag the grease through the hair, as it makes it sticky. Apply it only to the roots, rubbing it into them with the finger-tips. It has been recommended to apply grease by means of an oil-can such as is used in oiling machines, the long, pointed nozzle making it possible to reach the roots of the hair and the scalp.

Be Determined to Succeed. Remember You Have the Opportunity to Win or Lose a Customer.

THE WOMAN IN BUSINESS

Making a Little Shop Pay

THE rage for souvenirs and gifts, "to take home to the folks," has made a splendid opening for women who can make dainty articles of almost any description. If this line of work appeals to you, no time is better than the present to start in it.

First study well the thing you make best and can supply a large demand for. Then study localities. If you are a home body, perhaps you can start a booth in your own town. If you have the wandering spirit, branch out and go as far away as you dare. You will enjoy the change of scene, the new faces and new experiences. Write to the big hotels or the management of summer resorts and find out what commission or rent they will charge. Do not expect they will allow you valuable space free of charge. They are furnishing you patrons and advertisement, and will expect you to pay therefor. Spend your utmost limit on a first-class location.

Look Over the Ground. Preliminary trips are always sensible, if you can afford them. Then you can see the situation for yourself. During your first summer, keep your eyes open and learn which are the most popular resorts. Locate in big hotels, lobbies or reading-rooms, along board walks, near railway stations and in the heart of business districts, rather than in a residence section. Spend much thought (and as much money as you can) on making your booth or table attractive.

Clean, fresh linen covers, a growing plant in brass bowl or in plain terra cotta pot, your wares attractively grouped and yourself in pretty, white, fresh suit—this makes for desirable custom. I do not think there is anything as decorative and attractive as white, even though it is a bit expensive to launder. If you decide against white, get a pretty, neat lawn or batiste, with pretty stocks and dainty cuffs.

Do not allow yourself to wear the everlasting dark skirt and shirt-waist—the business woman's uniform. Do not underestimate the matter of dress when you set up as a merchant. Human nature is so constituted that it would rather purchase from a smart shop with smart-looking woman in charge than to patronize a slovenly, whining woman, no matter how great the latter's need for help.

Don't Waste Energy. Should you find you have chosen a bad place for sales, do not waste your first summer; pack up and move. For this reason try and avoid signing a lease which will necessitate your keeping your booth for an entire season. Rent by the week or month if you can. Tell the agent frankly that your business venture is a matter of experiment, and you wish to see how you are succeeding before you get into very deep waters.

If you have signed a lease, and are positive that your business will suffer by your remaining, try to sublet your booth to another tenant or try to strike a compromise. Pay a just amount for forfeiting your lease and move anyway. Do not be afraid to consult a lawyer to find out your obligations in a case like this. Get where you can sell your wares and gain a patronage, if you do have to lose some money at the beginning of your venture.

One young woman found when she selected her first place for selling novelties that she had made a big mistake. The place frequented by the fashionable people was a few miles away. She did not sell an article, and a pouring rain almost ruined her wares. "It was the hardest experience I have had," she confessed. "I shall never forget my sensations as I sat in that dilapidated booth in the rain and not a customer in sight. I was about ready to give up and jump into the ocean. Then common-sense came to my rescue. Why, here,

thought I. This is not at all like you to sit down and weep. Be up and doing. Be a man if you are going into business."

I got on the next train with my trunk, left my goods at the station while I gained permission of the management of the biggest, grandest hotel to allow me to sell my goods and pay the management one-third commission. The next morning the sun shone, my little table was surrounded by fashionable folks and my good luck began."

What to Sell. What do women who have these booths sell? It would be difficult to describe all the articles sold. For example, however, last summer in a reading-room on a board walk at an ocean resort I saw a white-haired woman as busy as she could be selling hand-painted buttons—cuff buttons, hat-pins, belt-pins, miniatures and little china novelties for the dresser and desk. She had nothing else, and I presume it represented her winter's painting. Probably she "farmed out" some of the work, too, thus helping others.

At another table there were kodak pictures, postals, novelties, in booklets and calendars, "sentiments" sold by a pretty young woman who wore a neat white shirt-waist suit, on which was pinned a college pin and a Christian Endeavor pin. She had touched up some of the photographs with water-colors and was getting what I considered a big price for them. In the corner by the fireplace was a table with lace, hand embroideries, knitted shawls, sweaters and sunbonnets. This woman had added some pretty rag dolls to her stock and sold them out rapidly.

Women's Opportunities Many. Other booths along this board walk had jigsaw puzzles, hand-made jewelry, children's toys for digging in sand, rompers, sunbonnets and bathing suits, Chinese wares, home-made candy, postal cards, shell novelties; there were a tea-room and dining-room run by women of different churches, and many other booths, exclusive of those run by regular city dealers.

Places in which conventions are held should be quick to take advantage of this desire to remember home folks while we are away. I attended a State Sunday-school convention and watched two young girls—one with illuminated tents and photographs of views about the town, and another with hand-made stocks and dainty handkerchiefs—sell out completely. A country boy with a basket of bouquets made of wild berries, leaves and grasses disposed of them so quickly that it astounded him. The women who served the delicious noon-day dinner were besieged by people asking for home-made bread, jelly, pickles and even cold meats to take back to the city.

In convention time, especially when citizens help entertain, visitors feel obliged to spend money generously to establish a good feeling. When conventions are held there is a demand for something which represents the city itself—views, booklets, souvenir spoons. A boy of fourteen, a newsboy, took photographs and wrote a little history of his home city. He had a printer friend make neat little booklets and sold them for fifty cents to those attending conventions. Two State conventions happened to meet in this town during one month and his stock was cleared out. Now the hotels and stationers of the town have his booklets in regular stock.

The Summer School Market. Summer schools and camp meetings offer fine chances for selling small novelties. One thing which has always struck me as being odd is that so few women who establish themselves neat camps and summer schools think of laying in a stock of useful articles for sale. I would rather make and sell good things than to create a demand for something purely decorative.

At a camp station, for example, there is always a demand for coffee-pots, skillets, kettles, tin pails, canvas, cotton blankets, sheets and cushions covered with good strong material.

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